

MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
JULY 19, 2012 – 12:15 P.M.  
TOWN HALL ANNEX – COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Fafard, Mathanool, Dowling, Smith, Kadri, Yatcko  
Staff: Strother  
Other: Council Liaison Johnson, Town Manager Mark Oefinger, City Mayor  
Marian Galbraith, Robert Frink, Citizen

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION – None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2012

MOTION: To approve the June 21, 2012 minutes

Motion made by Dowling, seconded by Kadri, so voted 5 in favor, 1 abstention (Yatcko)

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Discussion With Eastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce Legislative Lobbyist Jay Levin

Jay Levin provided an overview of his background as an Attorney and Lobbyist with Levin, Powers & Brennan, and some of the legislation they followed and lobbied for during this legislative session. Some of the bills highlighted included Public Act 12-183 regarding Brownfields. He also noted some legislation that did not pass this session, including economic development proposals. He noted this was a "short session" which is supposed to focus on the budget. Mr. Levin also provided background on what Lobbying is, and offered input on effective citizen lobbying and approaches to support issues in the legislative process.

2. Website Update

Barbara Strother reported that IT is working with the consultant on the web site to further refine and make improvements. Bob Frink noted that one area that may need some assistance is making sure key wording is utilized for web site searches to lead people to the site.

3. Incentives Review

Bruce Fafard provided a Financial Incentive Policy Summary to assist in discussion. Bill Johnson noted that the Town Council is looking for the EDC to research various incentives policies and options and come up with a plan to review with the Council. Various other options that have been utilized were discussed. Fafard suggested that the original incentives policy and history be reviewed as well as what others are doing on the municipal, state and national level. Also, possible utilities incentives should be researched. Fafard noted that it would be very helpful to have a project plan put together with tasks to move forward. Bill Smith offered to work on

defining a work plan on this initiative and will provide information to the Commission prior to the next meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

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George Mathanool Secretary  
Economic Development Commission

Prepared by Barbara Strother  
Economic Development Specialist